



**Testimony of  
the American Council of Engineering Companies of Connecticut  
to the Appropriations Committee  
On SB 106, An Act Concerning the Legislative Oversight and Approval for the Expenditure of  
Federal Transportation Infrastructure Funding**

**March 3, 2022**

The American Council of Engineering Companies of Connecticut (ACEC-CT) appreciates the opportunity to submit testimony in opposition to SB 106, An Act Concerning Legislative Oversight and Approval for the Expenditure of Federal Transportation Infrastructure Funding.

ACEC-CT represents 60 member-companies and almost 2,000 highly-skilled engineers with the expertise to improve quality of life through the built environment, including transportation, water infrastructure and vertical space. In fact, our industry and its staff were classified as essential workers throughout the COVID-19 pandemic because of the critical services we provide.

A significant goal of our organization is to educate and promote a better understanding of the infrastructure needs of the state and its residents. It is important to understand that our transportation network is integral to the success of the state's economy. The significance of a robust transportation network has been well documented by business analysts, economists, and the research community alike. While we have long advocated for a dedicated funding stream to meet the state's needs, the federal funding designated for Connecticut will help alleviate the pressures created from deferred maintenance and underinvestment.

Connecticut's Department of Transportation (CTDOT) has developed a long-term plan for continuous investment in the state's transportation infrastructure. CTDOT has long relied on a well thought out and transparent planning process which balances the essential need for maintaining state-of-good-repair with taking advantage of opportunities to enhance capacity where it can provide the greatest benefit. This plan is prioritized and then implemented based on Federal and State funding allocations. The new funding provided through the Infrastructure Investments and Jobs Act (IIJA) presents an opportunity to advance more of the priorities in CTDOT's plan and should not be used as the basis to modify a system that is already working.

CTDOT's streamlined process already ensures that dedicated funding is administered to accomplish the goals identified in their long-term plan. Adding layers of bureaucracy, which this bill would introduce, would undermine CTDOT's efforts and delay the use of IIJA funds. Expedient use of IIJA funds will help improve Connecticut's economy by creating jobs and improving mobility. Our member firms are ready right now to help execute projects and that will help get our economy going. Our state cannot afford to wait.